Michigan Department of Treasury 496 (02/06) Auditing Procedures Report

Issued under P.A. 2 of 1968, as amended and P.A. 71 of 1919, as amended.												
Local Unit of Government Type							Local Unit Na	me		County		
				Other								
Fisca	al Yea	r End			Opinion Date			Date Audit Report	Submitted to State			
We affirm that:												
We a	We are certified public accountants licensed to practice in Michigan.											
We f	We further affirm the following material, "no" responses have been disclosed in the financial statements, including the notes, or in the											
Management Letter (report of comments and recommendations).												
	YES	9	Check each applicable box below. (See instructions for further detail.)									
1.					nent units/funds es to the financi				the financial stat	ements and/or disclosed in the		
2.								unit's unreserved fu budget for expendit		estricted net assets		
3.			The local	unit is in o	compliance with	the Unif	orm Chart of	Accounts issued by	the Department	of Treasury.		
4.			The local	unit has a	idopted a budge	et for all r	equired fund	S.				
5.			A public h	earing on	the budget was	s held in	accordance v	vith State statute.				
6.					ot violated the ssued by the Lo				nder the Emerger	ncy Municipal Loan Act, or		
7.			The local	unit has n	ot been delinqu	uent in dis	stributing tax	revenues that were	collected for ano	ther taxing unit.		
8.			The local	unit only l	nolds deposits/i	nvestmer	nts that comp	ly with statutory req	uirements.			
9.								s that came to our a sed (see Appendix H		ed in the <i>Bulletin for</i>		
10.			that have	not been	previously com	municate	d to the Loca		Division (LAFD)	during the course of our audit . If there is such activity that has		
11.			The local	unit is fre	e of repeated co	omments	from previou	s years.				
12.			The audit	opinion is	UNQUALIFIE	Э.						
13.					complied with G		or GASB 34 a	s modified by MCG	AA Statement #7	and other generally		
14.			The board	l or counc	il approves all i	invoices p	orior to payme	ent as required by cl	harter or statute.			
15.			To our kno	owledge,	bank reconcilia	tions that	were review	ed were performed t	timely.			
15. To our knowledge, bank reconciliations that were reviewed were performed timely. If a local unit of government (authorities and commissions included) is operating within the boundaries of the audited entity and is not included in this or any other audit report, nor do they obtain a stand-alone audit, please enclose the name(s), address(es), and a description(s) of the authority and/or commission. I, the undersigned, certify that this statement is complete and accurate in all respects.												
We	have	e end	closed the	following	g:	Enclosed	d Not Requir	ed (enter a brief justific	cation)			
Fina	ancia	ıl Sta	tements									
The	lette	er of (Comments	and Reco	ommendations							
Oth	er (D	escrib	e)									
Certi	fied P	ublic A	Accountant (Fir	m Name)				Telephone Number				
Stree	et Add	ress						City	State	Zip		
Authorizing CPA Signature Rennith a. Beschiaums Printed Name License Number								Number				

SOUTHERN LINKS TRAILWAY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

February 29, 2008

SOUTHERN LINKS TRAILWAY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of the Council Southern Links Trailway Management Council Millington, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the Southern Links Trailway Management Council, as of and for the year ended February 29, 2008 as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Southern Links Trailway Management Council's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Southern Links Trailway Management Council, as of February 29, 2008, and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The budgetary comparison schedule, as identified in the table of contents, is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplemental information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquires of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplemental information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

The Southern Links Trailway Management Council has not presented a Management's Discussion and Analysis that the Government Accounting Standards Board has determined is necessary to supplement, although not a required part of, the financial statements.

Berthiaume & lo.

May 15, 2008



STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

February 29, 2008

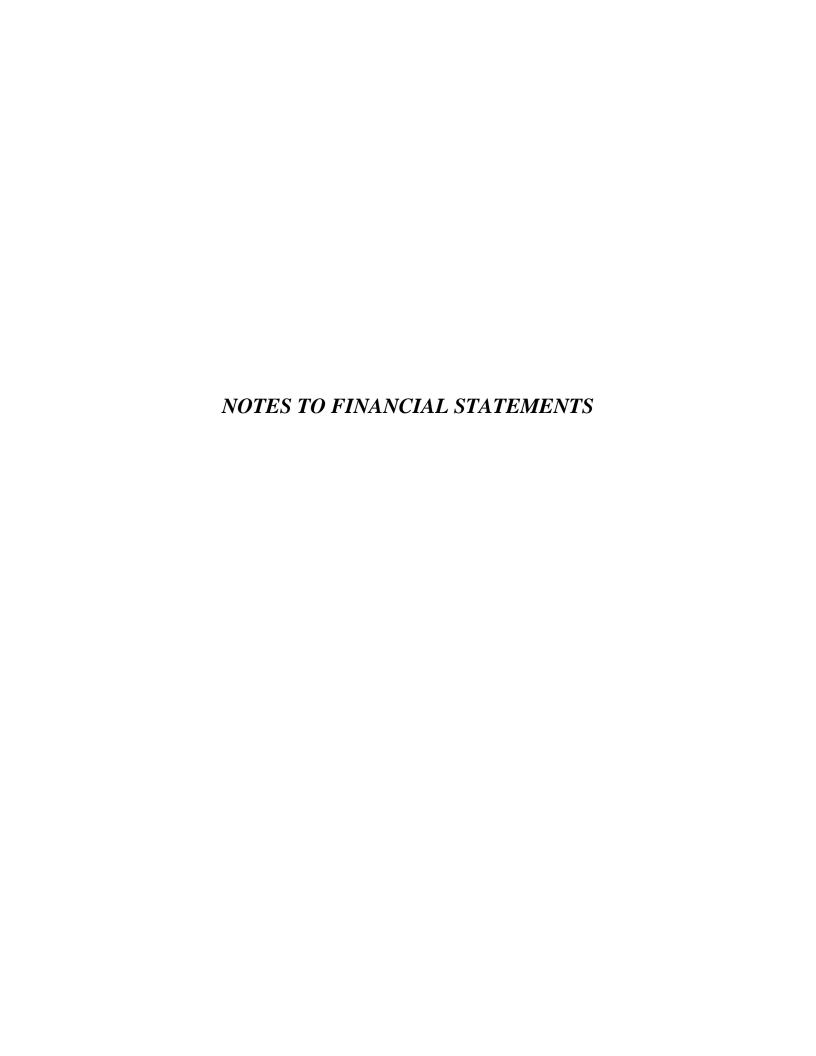
	Go	vernmental Fund	Adjustments (Note 6)	Statement of Net Assets
Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	2,862	\$ -	\$ 2,862
Escrow deposit		8,900	-	8,900
Capital assets:				
Nondepreciable capital assets			1,235,702	1,235,702
Total assets	\$	11,762	1,235,702	1,247,464
Liabilities and Fund Balance:				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable		8,571	-	8,571
Long-term liabilities:				
Due within one year			15,000	15,000
Due in more than one year			19,000	19,000
Total liabilities		8,571	34,000	42,571
Fund Balance:				
Unreserved		3,191	(3,191)	
Total fund balance		3,191		
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$	11,762		
Net assets:				
Invested in capital assets			1,201,702	1,201,702
Unrestricted			3,191	3,191
Total net assets			\$ 1,204,893	\$ 1,204,893

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Year Ended February 29, 2008

	Governmental Fund			ljustments (Note 6)	Statement of Activities		
Revenues:							
Contributions from participating units	\$	22,500	\$	-	\$	22,500	
Federal grants		380,592		-		380,592	
State grants		95,148		-		95,148	
Contributions and donations		13,945				13,945	
Total revenues/program revenues		512,185				512,185	
Expenditures/Expenses:							
Recreation:							
Operations		26,945		-		26,945	
Capital outlay		516,522		(516,522)		-	
Debt service		6,000		(6,000)			
Total expenditures/expenses		549,467		(522,522)	_	26,945	
Excess of revenues over (under)							
expenditures/expenses		(37,282)		522,522		485,240	
Other financing sources (uses)							
Proceeds from contract		40,000	_	(40,000)	_		
Net change in fund balance/net assets		2,718		482,522		485,240	
Fund balance/net assets, beginning of year		473		719,180		719,653	
Fund balance/net assets, end of year	\$	3,191	\$	1,201,702	\$	1,204,893	



NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

February 29, 2008

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the Southern Links Trailway Management Council conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governmental units. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies:

Reporting Entity:

The Southern Links Trailway Management Council was created in May, 2003 under the provisions of the Urban Cooperation ACT of 1967, 1967 PA 7, as amended ("Act 7), and Part 721 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended ("ACT 451"), by and between the Townships of Forest, Marathon, and Millington; the Villages of Millington, Otter Lake, and Columbiaville, for the purpose of establishing and providing the powers and duties of the Southern Links Trailway Management Council (the "Council") The Council was created to operate and maintain the Southern Links Trailway. The governing body of the Council is made up of two voting representatives from each municipality for a total of fourteen council members.

In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14 these financial statements of the Council include all activities for which the Council has oversight responsibility. The criteria established by the GASB for determining the reporting entity includes oversight responsibility, fiscal dependency, and whether the statements would be misleading if data were not included. The Council has determined that no outside agency meets the above criteria and, therefore, no other agency has been included as a blended or discretely-presented component unit in the Council's financial statements.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation:

The Council engages in only governmental type activities.

The government-wide financial statements (i.e. the Statement of Net Assets and Statement of Activities) are reported using the economic resource measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is uncured, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grant and similar items are recognized as revenues as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recognized when it is both measurable and available. Revenue is considered to be available if it is collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, if any, are recorded only when payment is due.

Assets, Liabilities and Equity:

<u>Deposits</u> – Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, demand deposits, certificates of deposit and short term investments with a maturity of three months or less when acquired.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

February 29, 2008

<u>Capital Assets</u> – Purchased capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. Donated capital assets are recorded at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The Council defines capital assets as assets with an initial individual cost in excess of \$1,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Costs of normal repair and maintenance that do not add to the value or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. The Council currently has no depreciable capital assets.

<u>Long-term Obligations</u> – In the government-wide financial statements long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities.

Use of Estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 2: STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Uniform Budgetary and Accounting Act, PA 2 of 1968, as amended, provides that a local governmental unit shall not incur expenditures in excess of the amount appropriated.

During the year, the Council incurred no expenditures which were in excess of the amounts appropriated.

NOTE 3: DEPOSITS

Michigan Compiled Laws Section 129.91 (Public Act 20 of 1943, as amended) authorizes local governmental units to make deposits and invest in the accounts of federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations that have offices in Michigan. The local unit is allowed to invest in bonds, securities, and other direct obligations of the United States or any agency of instrumentality of the United States; repurchase agreements; bankers' acceptances of United States banks; commercial paper rated within the two highest classifications, which matures not more than 270 days after the date of purchase; obligations of the State of Michigan or its political subdivisions, which are rated as investment grade; and mutual funds composed of investment vehicles that are legal for direct investment by local units of government in Michigan.

The investment policy adopted by the Council is in accordance with Public Act 196 of 1997. The Council's deposits and investments have been made in accordance with statutory authority.

The Council's deposits are subject to custodial risk, which is presented in more detail as follows:

Custodial Credit Risk of Bank Deposits:

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Council's deposits may not be returned to them. The Council does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At year end, the Council had \$2,862 of bank deposits (certificates of deposit, checking, and savings accounts), of which \$2,862 was covered by federal depository insurance and the remainder was uninsured and uncollateralized.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

February 29, 2008

NOTE 4: CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets activity for the year ended February 29, 2008 was as follows:

		Balance March 1, 2007	Additions		Retirements			Balance ebruary 29, 2008
Governmental activities: Nondepreciable capital assets: Land	<u>\$</u>	719,180	\$	516,522	\$		<u>\$</u>	1,235,702

NOTE 5: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

The Council entered into a contract to provide for the acquisition of land for the trailway.

Long-term liabilities at February 29, 2008 consisted of the following:

Type of Indebtedness	Maturity	Interest Rates	Annual Principal <u>Installments</u>	Original Issue <u>Amount</u>	
Contract payable: Land purchase	4/1/08-4/1/09	0.00%	\$6,000-19,000	\$ 40,000	

The following is a summary of long-term liabilities transactions for the year ended February 29, 2008:

	Ве	Beginning					1	Ending	Due Within		
Type of Indebtedness		Balance		Additions		Retirements		Balance		One Year	
Contract payable:											
Land purchase	\$	-	\$	40,000	\$	(6,000)	\$	34,000	\$	15,000	

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for the above bond and contractual obligations are as follows:

Year Ended February 28,		Inte	erest	Total		
2009	\$	15,000	\$	-	\$	15,000
2010		19,000				19,000
	\$	34,000	\$	_	\$	34,000

NOTE 6: RISK MANAGEMENT

The Council is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, and natural disasters. Each member unit of the Council is responsible for purchasing insurance to cover any potential claims associated with these risks associated with the portion of the trailway that lies within their boundry.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued

February 29, 2008

NOTE 7: RECONCILIATION OF FUND AND GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Reconciliation of differences between the fund (modified accrual) balance sheet and the government-wide statement of net assets.	
Fund balance, February 28, 2008	\$ 3,191
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds.	
Governmental capital assets	1,235,702
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current year and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds:	
Contract payable	(34,000)
Net assets, February 29, 2008	\$1,204,893
Reconciliation of differences between the fund (modified accrual) statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance and the government-wide statement of net activities.	
Net change in fund balance, modified accrual, for the year ended February 29, 2008	\$ 2,718
Total change in net assets reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is depreciated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.	
Capital outlay	516,522
Contract proceeds are revenue in the governmental funds, but the proceeds increase long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets.	(40,000)
Repayments of principal on long-term obligations are expenditures in governmental but the payments reduce long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets.	6,000
Change in net assets, for the year ended February 29, 2008	\$ 485,240
Change in het assets, for the year chucu reditary 29, 2000	Ψ +03,240



OPERATING FUND

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE

Year Ended February 29, 2008

						A	Actual	
	Budgeted Amounts					Ove	r (Under)	
	Original		Final		Actual		Fine	al Budget
Revenues:								
Federal grants	\$	400,000	\$	400,000	\$	380,592	\$	(19,408)
State grants		100,000		100,000		95,148		(4,852)
Contributions from other units		25,000		20,000		22,500		2,500
Other revenue				10,000		13,945		3,945
Total revenues		525,000		530,000		512,185		(17,815)
Expenditures:								
Current								
Recreation		25,000		30,000		26,945		(3,055)
Capital outlay		500,000		540,000		516,522		(23,478)
Debt service								
Principal						6,000		6,000
Total expenditures		525,000		570,000		549,467		(20,533)
Excess (deficiency) of								
revenues over expenditures		-		(40,000)		(37,282)		2,718
Other financing sources (uses):								
Proceeds from contract				40,000		40,000		
Net change in fund balance		-		-		2,718		2,718
Fund balance, beginning of year		473	_	473		473		
Fund balance, end of year	\$	473	\$	473	\$	3,191	\$	2,718



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REQUIRED COMMUNICATION TO THE SOUTHERN LINKS TRAILWAY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

To the Trailway Management Council Southern Links Trailway Management Council

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Southern Links Trailway Management Council for the year ended February 29, 2008, and have issued our report thereon dated May 15, 2008. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

Our Responsibility Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated March 24, 2008, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our engagement letter.

Significant Accounting Policies

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Southern Links Trailway Management Council are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. There were no sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements.

Disclosures

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear. Certain financial statement disclosures may be particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no difficulties in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements, if any.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated May 15, 2008.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Internal Control Matters

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Southern Links Trailway Management Council as of and for the year ended February 29, 2008, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Southern Links Trailway Management Council's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Organization's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that misstatement of the Organization's

financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Organization's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the Organization's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses as defined above.

Deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above, follow:

Recording, Processing and Summarizing Accounting Data

Criteria: All governments are required to have in place internal controls over recording, processing, summarizing accounting data and preparing financial statements. SAS No. 112 requires us to communicate with you about this.

Conditions: As is the case with many smaller and medium-sized entities, the government has historically relied on its independent external auditors to assist in the recording, processing, summarizing accounting data and preparing financial statements as part of its external financial reporting process. Accordingly, the government has placed reliance on its external auditors, who cannot by definition be considered a part of the government's internal controls.

Cause: This condition was caused by the government's decision that it is more cost effective to have external auditors recommend the necessary adjusting journal entries to its general ledger and prepare the financial statements than to incur the time and expense for the government to perform these tasks internally.

Effect: As a result of this condition, the government lacks internal controls over the recording, processing, summarizing accounting data and preparing financial statements, and instead relied, in part, on its external auditors for assistance with this task.

View of Responsible Officials: The government has evaluated the cost versus benefit of establishing internal controls over the recording, processing, summarizing accounting data and preparing financial statements, and determined that it is in the best interests of the government to rely on its external auditors to recommend the necessary adjustments and preparation of the financial statements.

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This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, Council, and others within the Organization, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sincerely,

Berthiaume & Company Certified Public Accountants

Berchiaume & Co.

Saginaw, Michigan May 15, 2008